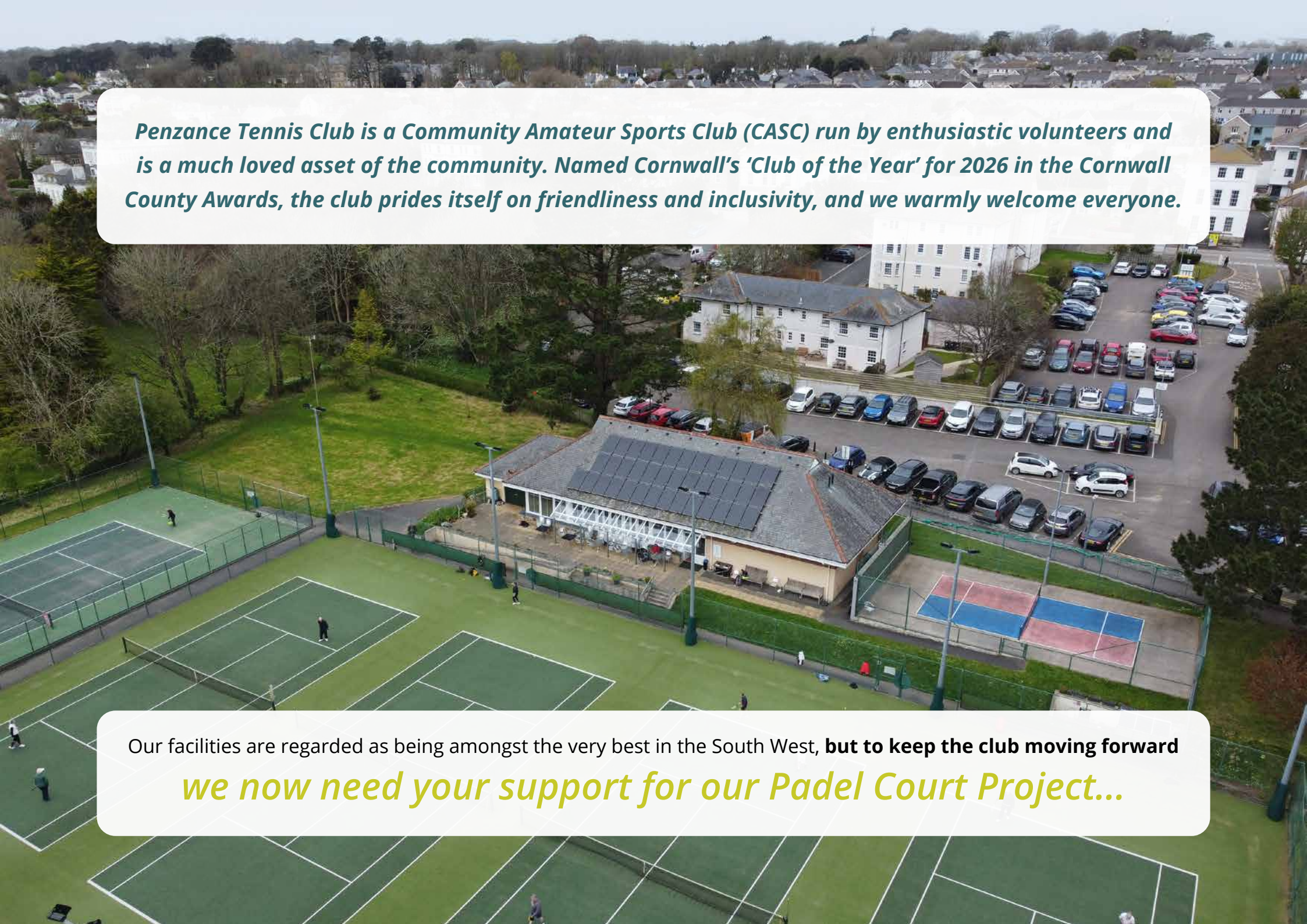


Welcoming your views on
Proposed Padel Courts
at Penzance Tennis Club

penzance
TENNIS CLUB





Penzance Tennis Club is a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) run by enthusiastic volunteers and is a much loved asset of the community. Named Cornwall's 'Club of the Year' for 2026 in the Cornwall County Awards, the club prides itself on friendliness and inclusivity, and we warmly welcome everyone.

Our facilities are regarded as being amongst the very best in the South West, **but to keep the club moving forward**
we now need your support for our Padel Court Project...

What is Padel?

Padel is a fast-paced racket sport that combines elements of tennis and squash, played in an enclosed court.

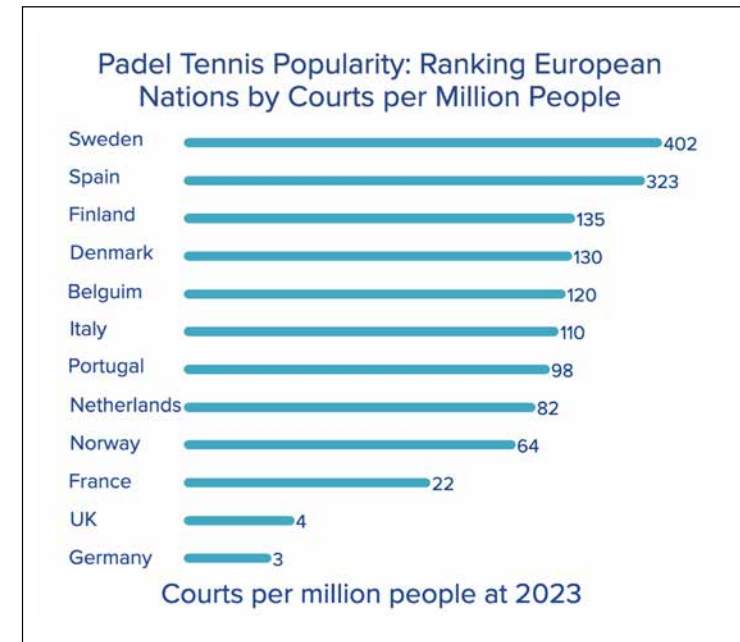
Invented in 1969 in, Mexico, Padel is the world's fastest-growing racket sport - over **35 million** people play padel globally across more than **150 countries**.

Padel is huge in Europe - it is now the second most popular sport in Spain (behind football) with over **4 million players** and more than **14,000 courts**.

In the UK the number of people playing Padel has exploded - in 2019 this number was just **15,000** however by 2025 this figure has increased to over **860,000** players.

As of the end of 2025, the UK has over **1,550 courts** spanning **559 venues**. Industry analysts predict this trajectory could reach **7,000 - 8,000 courts in the next decade**.

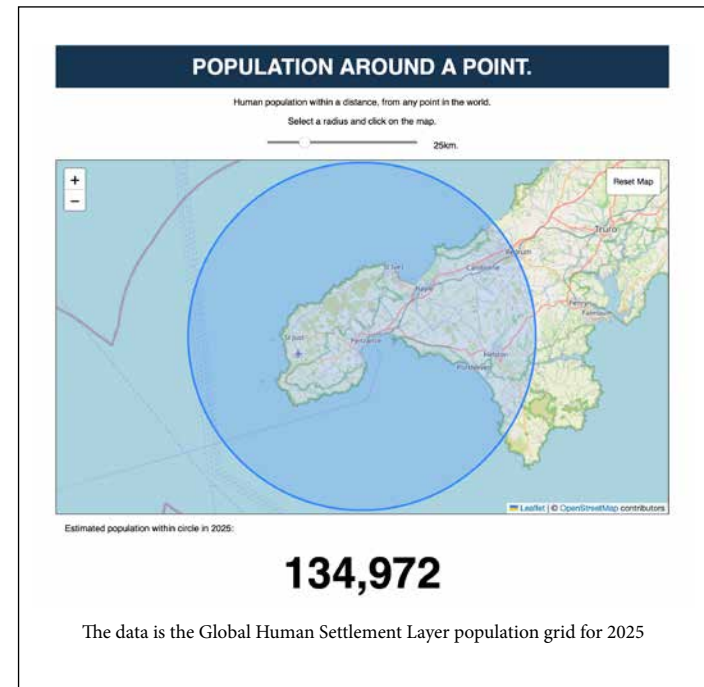
In Devon there are currently 24 courts...
Cornwall currently only has 9 courts!



Community benefits of Padel?

With approx 135k people living within a 25km radius of Penzance, Padel will bring a host of benefits to both the local and wider community...

- **Fast-paced, accessible and social** - it encourages groups of mixed ages and abilities to come together and play.
- **Padel is inclusive** - widely regarded as one of most adaptive sports for disabled people to enjoy.
- **Padel is easy to pick up for beginners** - it doesn't matter your age, ability or background, anyone can play!
- **It's a great workout** - padel is the perfect match of aerobic and anaerobic exercise to boost cardiovascular health. It also helps improve co-ordination plus has proven mental health benefits.
- **It's a social game** - only played as doubles, padel is one of the most social sports for friends and families to play.
- **40% of padel players are estimated to be women**, compared to an estimated **15%** in tennis.

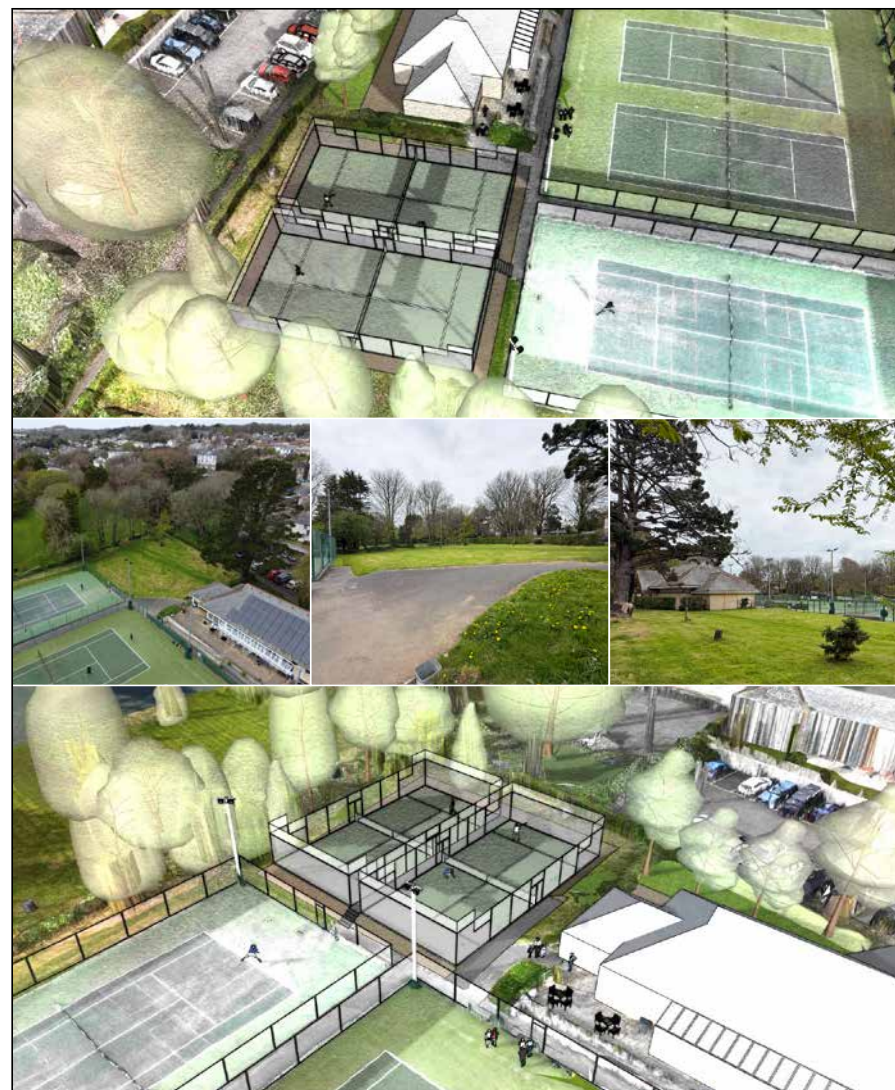


**More Padel
investment** needed
in our **less affluent areas**

New research reveals that padel venues
are **6.5 times more prevalent in
England's most affluent areas** than
in the most deprived areas.

Penzance Tennis Club Padel Proposal

Expand the current club lease to include a suitable area of Penlee Park to allow us to build 2 padel courts



Site Feasibility Study

PENLEE PARK, Penzance Tennis Club

Existing Layout 1:500

Proposed Site

This area is relatively flat and open, well connected to the clubhouse and the carpark, contained with the tennis club on two sides, and with open parkland separated by a strong boundary feature. The proposal would result in the loss of a large Monterey Pine which extends over the club house and which is a similar age as a former nearby tree which was lost in winds in 2023.

Two padel courts offers the optimum facility, and minimum operational offer, with at least two courts required for leagues and competitive matches. The proposal aims to provide financial stability and maximise community recreation

D. Park land

This area is situated more distant from the clubhouse and outside of the perimeter, encroaching into the park, crowded by trees

A. Junior Court

This site option would result in the loss of a valuable asset which is used for teaching junior club members, and the site cannot accommodate two courts without the loss of further trees along the boundary.

B. Terraces

This area of land is stepped and providing terrace seating. Padel courts here would result in the loss of the terracing, and is not level or large enough without significant excavations and loss of nearby trees

C. Wooded area

This area is covered in denser 'woodland' and the installation would result in the loss of numerous trees

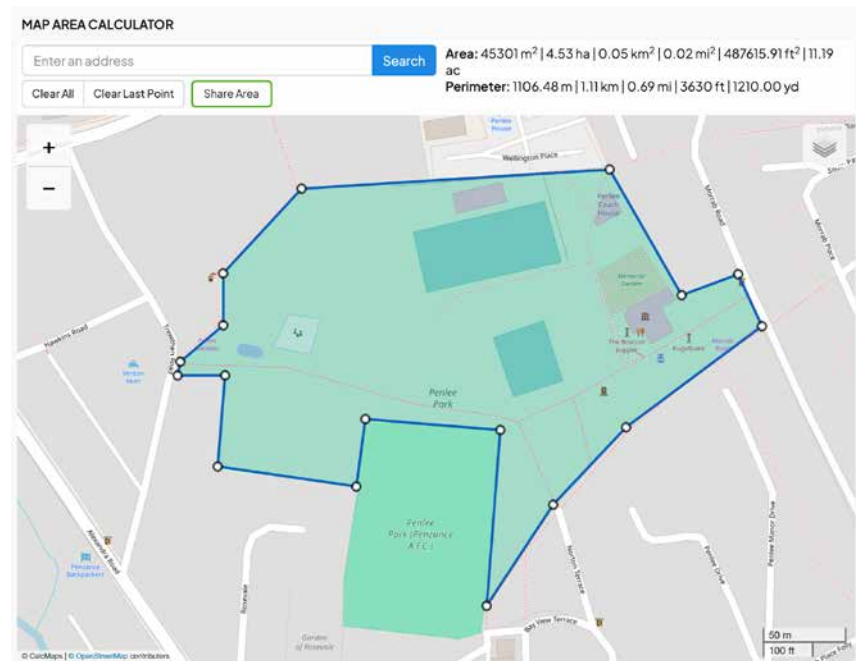


Note: Penzance Tennis Club has approx. 360 members which equates to roughly 60 members per court which meets with LTA ratio guidelines.

Council Policy Concerns

Cornwall Council's policy on green space focuses on the protection, enhancement, and mandatory expansion of green infrastructure to support biodiversity, climate resilience, and public well-being. Open spaces are valued community assets. They help to improve public health, well-being and quality of life.

At roughly **800m²**, this parcel of land represents **less than 2%** of the estimated 45,000m² of Penlee Park.



The parcel of land is tucked away and is currently only used by a handful of people a week to walk their dogs...

Re-purposing it for the benefit of the whole community in such a positive way, allowing potentially over 600 people a week to engage in physical exercise, surely must contribute towards public well-being?

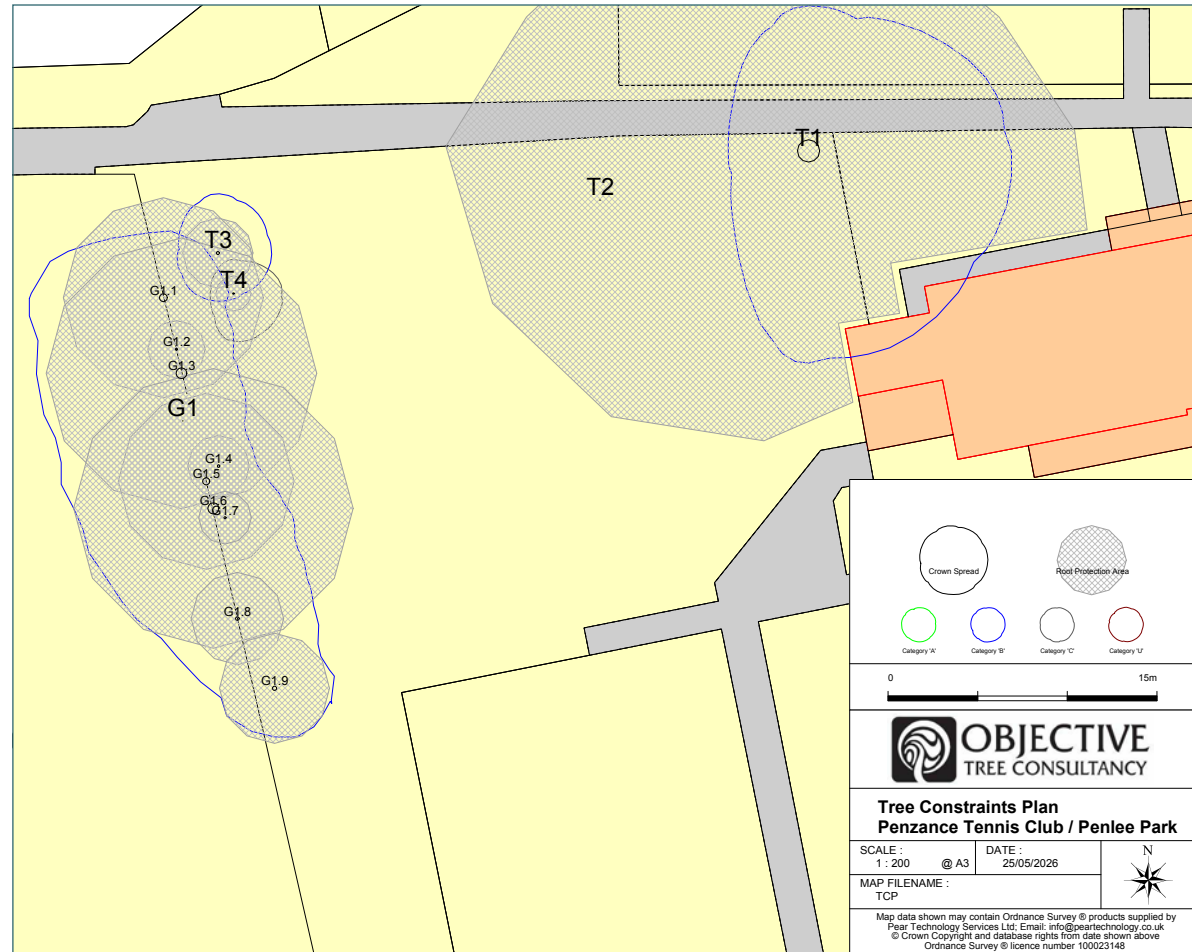
Tree Constraints

A tree survey has also been commissioned to understand potential effects of the Padel court proposal

This showed that the Monterey pine (T1) closest to the clubhouse has a modified root area which would be impacted. **A similar tree was lost in a storm in 2023** which has left this remaining pine more exposed with **potentially a bigger liability risk** while extending over the clubhouse.

In real terms, this remaining Monterey pine would need to be removed to incorporate the new courts. Trees on west aspect would be retained.

The favoured proposal is mitigation for the loss of T1 with structural replacement achieving gains with native planting, subject to agreement and further consideration with stakeholders.



Support from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

We were very honoured when the President of the LTA, Sandy Procter, visited our club for the 75th Open Tournament Anniversary last year.



Here is a letter of support the President of the LTA sent us following her visit...

Dave Forrest

Hon. Secretary, Penzance TC & Tournament Organiser, Penzance Open.

Dear Dave

Letter of Support

Further to my recent visit to Penzance Tennis Club, I wanted to take this opportunity to say how impressed I was with the facilities, the dedicated team of volunteers, and the warm and welcoming community you have fostered. It is clear that the club is a significant asset, not only to its members but to the wider community of Penzance and West Cornwall.

I am fully supportive of the club's vision to build on this success by adding both Padel and Pickleball courts on available land at the club. These sports are experiencing rapid growth across the country, attracting new players of all ages and backgrounds, and importantly, engaging people who may not otherwise have become involved in tennis or other traditional racket sports.

The addition of Padel, in particular, would be a fantastic complement to your existing facilities. At present there are only 9 Padel courts across the county, compared with an identified demand for at least 43, and the majority of these are clustered in the Newquay/Padstow area. Establishing courts in Penzance would not only help to meet this growing demand but also ensure that communities in the far west of Cornwall can access and benefit from this exciting sport.

Introducing both Padel and Pickleball to the club would strengthen your role at the heart of the local community, offering more opportunities for participation, physical activity, and social connection in a part of the country that faces deprivation. These new facilities would make the club more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient, while attracting a broader membership base and encouraging greater use of your already outstanding facilities.

I am delighted to lend my full support to this ambitious and forward-looking vision, and I am confident that its delivery would bring lasting benefits to the club, its members, and the wider community.

Yours sincerely,

Sandi Procter

Sandi Procter
President, LTA

Who will use the new Padel courts?

The short answer is EVERYONE...

Whilst Penzance Tennis Club is a private members club, our tennis courts can be booked by the general public on a 'pay & play' basis.

Our coaches work with all the local schools and the club regularly host school competitions, for which tennis courts are provided free of charge.

Anyone visiting the town can come and play tennis - we offer weekly memberships to people on holiday, out-of-county membership options or individual pay & play.

Our tennis coaches have close connections with a number of health and well-being organisations delivering sessions focusing on mental health, walking tennis for those less mobile, cardio tennis to improve fitness, parent and toddler sessions and our popular disability group attracts participants from the wider community.

Penzance Tennis Club's courts and facilities are all wheelchair friendly.

We are planning to offer a very similar operating model for the proposed new Padel courts to ensure the whole community benefits.





Financial Impact

Padel IS coming - we believe PENZANCE should benefit from any new Padel Courts...

Our proposal sees a not-for-profit community amateur sports club bringing padel to the local community.

In other areas of the country, private Padel clubs are being built everywhere, with only the wealthy owners benefitting financially.

Other tennis clubs in the country have gone down a franchised model, where a large % of the profits go to a privately run business.

Penzance Tennis Club is on a firm financial footing - with LTA support we intend to **self-finance** this project to ensure **any future profits are ploughed back into the club to further improve the facilities.**

It is also estimated that the Padel court project will create **new employment opportunities** for local people.

*With our existing club facilities and the resources we already have in place to manage it, adding Padel courts is the perfect fit...
GAME, SET & MATCH!*

As members of the Leisure & Amenities Committee

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

We will be displaying our Project Padel plans at the club as part of a public consultation to demonstrate demand for the new courts and to provide an opportunity for the local community to come and speak with the club to better understand the application in order to support it.

Following this public consultation our plan is to submit a formal pre-application enquiry with Cornwall Council.

If you would like to discuss these plans in more detail please contact us - we would be delighted to meet you, show you round the current facilities and discuss further how this project will benefit the town and community.

Email: ***info@penzancetennisclub.co.uk***

